Wicker Wilson (SC) Wilson (NM) Wolf Abercrombie Green, Al Ackerman

Young (AK) Young (FL)

NOES-198

Oberstar Green, Gene Obey Allen Grijalya. Olver Baca Gutierrez Ortiz Baird Harman Owens Hastings (FL) Baldwin Pallone Barrow Herseth Pascrell Bean Higgins Pastor Becerra. Hinchey Pavne Berkley Hinojosa Pelosi Peterson (MN) Berman Holden Berry Holt Pomeroy Price (NC) Bishop (GA) Honda Bishop (NY) Hooley Rahall Blumenauer Hoyer Rangel Boren Inslee Reyes Boswell Israel Ross Boucher Jackson-Lee Rothman Roybal-Allard Royd (TX) Brady (PA) Jefferson Ruppersberger Brown (OH) Johnson, E. B. Rush Brown, Corrine Jones (OH) Ryan (OH) Sabo Butterfield Kanjorski Kaptur Capps Salazar Capuano Kennedy (RI) Sánchez, Linda Cardin Kildee Kilpatrick (MI) Cardoza Sanchez, Loretta Carnahan Kind Sanders Carson Kucinich Schakowsky Case Langevin Schiff Lantos Chandler Schwartz (PA) Larsen (WA) Cleaver Scott (GA) Clyburn Larson (CT) Scott (VA) Convers Lee Serrano Cooper Levin Sherman Lewis (GA) Costa Skelton Costello Lipinski Slaughter Lofgren, Zoe Cramer Smith (WA) Crowley Lowey Snyder Cuellar Lynch Solis Maloney Cummings Spratt Davis (AL) Markey Stark Davis (CA) Marshall Strickland Davis (FL) Matheson Stupak Davis (IL) Matsui Tanner Davis (TN) McCarthy Tauscher DeFazio McCollum (MN) Taylor (MS) DeGette McDermott Thompson (CA) Delahunt McGovern Thompson (MS) McIntyre DeLauro Tierney Dicks McKinney Towns Dingell McNulty Udall (CO) Doggett Meehan Udall (NM) Meek (FL) Dovle Van Hollen Edwards Meeks (NY) Velázquez Visclosky Emanuel Melancon Engel Menendez Wasserman Eshoo Michaud Schultz Etheridge Miller (NC) Waters Evans Miller, George Watson Mollohan Watt Farr Moore (KS) Fattah Waxman Moore (WI) Filner Weiner Moran (VA) Wexler Frank (MA) Nadler Woolsev Napolitano Gonzalez Wu Gordon Neal (MA) Wynn

NOT VOTING-10

Clay	Issa	Murtha
Emerson	Jones (NC)	Musgrave
Gingrey	Millender-	Pickering
Hastings (WA)	McDonald	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1208

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NOTICE OF OUT OF ORDER CON-SIDERATION OF CERTAIN AMENDMENTS ON H.R. 1815, NA-TIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Mr. HUNTER, Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 4 of House Resolution 293, I am providing the requisite notice and request that the following amendments as printed in House Report 109-96 be considered out of order: Goode No. 20. Jo Ann Davis of Virginia No. 24, Davis of California No. 12, Hunter No. 1, Stearns No. 6, Bradley of New Hampshire No. 29, Woolsey No. 26.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's notice has been received.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZA-TION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 293 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1815.

The Chair designates the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) as chairman of the Committee of the Whole, and requests the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) to assume the chair temporarily.

\sqcap 1212

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1815) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2006, and for other purposes, with Mr. BOOZMAN (Acting Chairman) in the

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Skelton) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This year, the Committee on Armed Services has put together a bill that is a true example of bipartisan cooperation, providing the men and women of the armed services with the best equipment, best training, and a benefit package that is worthy of their service and their sacrifice.

The National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2006 provides \$441 billion for the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy. The bill was voted out of committee by a vote of 61 to 1 and contains significant improvements in areas of military personnel, acquisition reform, responsible defense procurement strategies, and addresses a need for continuity in funding for our ongoing efforts in the global war on terror.

But before I get into any details, Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. Skel-TON), who has been my partner on this committee, for all the great work that he has done. I would also like to praise our subcommittee chairmen and ranking members. This bill is a culmination of their many hearings and oversight reviews

Almost every member of this full committee has been to the war fighting theaters in Iraq and Afghanistan and gathered firsthand important information that has ultimately been reflected in this bill that we have put together. I want to thank all the members of the committee and all our great leaders on both the Democrat and Republican side, the chairmen of the subcommittees and the ranking members, for their work.

This year, Mr. Chairman, we have made taking care of our troops, both now and in the future, one of our top priorities. We can do all of these things in developing great weapons systems and facilities, but the only thing that really is important, the element that drives the security apparatus of the United States, is people. It is the men and women in uniform. To recognize these sacrifices, the committee has included a number of very well-deserved changes in our MILPER system, and it starts with this 3.1 percent pay raise across the board.

Incidentally, that pulls down this difference in pay on the outside in the domestic world and military pay. There has always been a differential. If you were a military technician in a certain area, you have historically made less money than your counterpart in the private world.

\sqcap 1215

But we have pulled down that differential now to a very low rate, which is now about 4.6 percent. We have increased, in fact, military pay 25 percent over the last 4 years, and that has been the result of the great work of members of our committee, Mr. Chairman.

We have also increased the death gratuity to \$100,000, and understanding that there is no way we can repay those who have lost their loved ones, this helps to bridge those very difficult times when that man or woman does not come back from the warfighting theaters.

We also provide additional increases in end strength. With this bill we have completed our end strength increase plan of 30,000 more soldiers for the Army and 4,000 for the Marine Corps.

But we also realize that there are a lot of other things we need to do, especially in the warfighting theaters. We have increased by \$572 million our inventory of Humvees, \$183 million for counter-rocket and mortar systems. Those are the systems that can take down those mortars and rockets that